State/UT	Number of cases
Tripura	09
Uttar Pradesh	307
Chandigarh (UT)	266
Delhi	556
Pondicherry	32
Lakshadweep	0
West Bengal	273
Nagaland	02
Jammu & Kashmir	03
TOTAL	5809

Decontrol of Sugar

2649. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered committee on the sugar industry has recommended complete decontrol of the sugar price and also discontinuation of supply through PDS;

(b) if so, whether the price of sugar depends upon production of sguar and decontrolling price of sugar will benefit the sugar producing companies;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to bring down the price of sugar and if so, efforts made in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS: (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The recommendations of the Committee are under examination in the Government.

Target Date for Providing Health for All

2650. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any target-date for providing health for all in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts made by Government to achieve the target; and

(d) the details of the strategy being adopted by Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (d) 'Health for All by 2000 A.D.' is the overall aim of the National Health Policy through the universal provision of comprehensive primary health care services. To achieve this goal a comprehensive network of rural health infra-structure comprising 136339 Sub-centres, 22010 Primary Health Centres, 2622 Community Health Centres has been established throughout the country. External assistance has been mobilised by the Central Govt. for supporting National programmes for control of diseases such as AIDS, Malaria, T.B., Leprosy and Blindness.

Secondary health facilities are also being upgraded in selected States with World Bank assistance.

Development of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy is being encouraged to widen the network of health services available to the people. A comprehensive project for reproductive and child health caters to the special requirements of women and children.

Non-implementation of DOTS to Cure T.B.

2651. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is one of the countries which will not meet the W.H.O. deadline of 2000 AD for universal implementation of Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course to cure T.B. with an 85 to 90% cure rate as per recent report published by W.H.O.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for non-implementation of DOTS; and

(c) how much assistance has since been received from W.H.O. in this regard

during the last five years and in which State that amount was spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) The implementation of the Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course (DOTS) strategy involves several input which apart from upgrading management skills also include strengthening/creation of microscopy centre, training of staff, recruitment of additional staff, minor construction works, and procurement and supply of disposables in each of the Districts.

(c) WHO has provided Technical assistance in this regard except during the year 1982-83, where it provided an assistance of US $ 8,91,183 to Central Government for the TB Control Programmes.

Lifting the ban on non-iodised salt

2652. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to lift the ban on non-iodised salt in the country;

(b) whether Government have received any representation for lifting the ban; and

(c) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) The Government issued a notification under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 stipulating that salt sold for direct human consumption has to be compulsorily iodised. This became effective from 27.5.98. The statutory process prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act & Rules thereunder was fully observed and the measure was taken in the interest of public health and on the technical advice of health experts. Recently, the Andhra Pradesh High Court has issued orders suspending the notification and the matter is sub-judice.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Iodated salt is compulsorily used in 90 countries of the World. The ban on the use of non-iodated salt for human consumption was already in force throughout the country except in two States where the ban was partial and in one State which had not banned such sale.

Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic treatment

2653. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to popularise Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic treatment in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of strategy proposed to be adopted for the purpose in every state during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are annexed. [*See* Appendix 184, Annexure no. 77]

(c) A Working Group was set up by the Planning Commission to prepare proposals for the Development and Promotion of the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy for the 9th Five Year Plan period. The Working Group identified areas of intervention such as standards of education, standardisation of drugs and quality control, enhancing the availability of raw materials, research and development, involvement in the National Health Care Delivery. The 5th Conference of Control Council of Health and Family Welfare held from 8th to 10th January, 1997 and the Ist Conference of the Ministers of Health dealing with Indian Systems of Medicine